(b) if so, the details thereof and by when this facility is likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, from Basoda Vikas Sangharash Samiti forwarded by Shri Raghavji, MP vide his letter dated 25-4-90. The suggestion for stoppage of Chhatisgarh Express and G.T. Express contained in the representation was examined but not found feasible of implementation.

World Bank's Assistance for I.C.D.S.

3632. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the World Bank has agreed to assist the enriched I.C.D.S. projects in the States after discussion with officials in Washington:

(b) if so, when the discussion was held and the outcome of it;

(c) the total financial assistance sanctioned by World Bank for the project;

(d) whether Government have evaluated the ICDS programme already undertaken in different States; and

(e) if so, what is the outcome of such evaluation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SMT. USHA SINHA) : (a) to (c) Negotiations were held at Washington with World Bank representatives from 11—18 May 1990 for funding of the project proposals for Multi-State ICDS project in the States of Orissa and Andhra Pradesh. These proposals envisage coverage of 191 blocks in Orissa and 110 blocks in Andhra Pradesh. During the negotiations World Bank representatives agreed in principle to provide assistance of about US $ 106 million during the project period. At an assumed rate of exchange of Rs. 17 per US $ the financial assistance will be equivalent to Rs. 180.20 crores. The Bank's Board of Directors would consider the proposals for approval in September 1990.

(d) and (e) The evaluation of ICDS programme is a continuous process. The programme have been evaluated by All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Planning Commission, Nutrition Foundation of India, etc. The evaluation studies so far conducted show that :

(i) The incidence of severe malnutrition declined considerably in ICDS project areas.

(ii) The participation of the most vulnerable age group i.e. 0—3 years is higher than in any previous child welfare programme. About 45% of the children receiving supplementary nutrition are below 3 years of age.

(iii) The immunisation coverage of children in the ICDS project areas is substantially higher, sometimes even three to four times higher, than in the non-ICDS areas.

(iv) Decline in infant mortality and birth rates and greater acceptance of family planning in ICDS project areas, as summarised below, has been noticed :

Item	Figure for ICDS areas	National (SRS) figure
Infant Mortality Rate (1987)	82.6	35.0
Birth Rate (1981)	24.2	333.3
Pregnancy Prevalence Rate (1981) . . .	1.8	2.8

(v) Other positive trends, like increased birth weights of babies, greater prevention of disability by immunisation, control of Vitamin A deficiency and anaemia, have also been noticed.

मंडल आयोग की रिपोर्ट के क्रियान्वयन की समीक्षा

3633. **श्रीमती सूर्यकान्ता पाटिल** : क्या कल्याण मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि मंडल आयोग की सिफारिशों को लागू करने संबंधी घोषणा के बाद हुए देशव्यापी हिंसात्मक प्रदर्शनों को देखते हुए सरकार अपने निर्णय पर पुर्नविचार करने का विचार रखती है;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि सरकार द्वारा जल्दबाजी में उठाये गए कदम के परिणामस्वरूप बड़े पैमाने पर हिंसा तथा आपसी टकराव हुआ है ,

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि इस घोषणा के बाद शेष जातियों ने भी आरक्षण की मांग की है और क्या सरकार इस प्रकार के प्रस्ताव पर विचार करने के लिए तैयार है, और

(घ) यदि उपरोक्त भाग (ग) का उत्तर हां हो तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ?

श्रम एवं कल्याण मंत्री (श्री राम विलास पासवान) : (क) से (घ) : संवैधानिक उपबंधों के अनुसार भारत सरकार तथा केन्द्रीय सार्वजनिक उपक्रमों की सेवाओं में 27% का आरक्षण देकर, सरकार ने सामाजिक न्याय का अतिमहत्वपूर्ण तथा ऐतिहासिक निर्णय लिया है। भारत सरकार के निर्णय के समर्थन तथा विरोध में देश के कतिपय भागों में कुछ आन्दोलन/प्रदर्शन हुए हैं । तथापि देशभर में इस निर्णय का स्वागत हुआ है। जिन पिछड़ी जातियों के संबंध में पहले ही निर्णय लिया जा चुका है उन में न अपने वाली अन्य जातियों के लिए आरक्षण की व्यवस्था का कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है ।

Provision of Computerised Railway Reservation facility at Rourkela

3634. SHRI SARDA MOHANTY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state whether Government propose to provide computerised railway reservation facility in the Steel City of Rourkela and in any other big railway station under the Khurda Division in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : There are no plans for providing computerised reservation facility at Rourkela. This facility, however, is being provided at Bhubaneswar and Cuttack on Khurda Road division.

Difficulties in getting ration from FPS

3635. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that many people in the country in general and particularly in Delhi are facing difficulties in getting their rations from the fair price shops due to non-availability of the stocks with them; and

(b) if so, what action Government purpose to take to ensure free flow of stocks to Fair Price Shops so that the inconvenience caused to the consumers, especially, the poor are mitigated to a large extent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL) : (a) In an operation of the magnitude of PDS, with about 3.6 lakhs FPSs throughout the country localised failure of supplies here and there due to transport difficulties etc. in spite of best efforts is not ruled out. However, in general, the PDS plays a useful role in providing supplies at reasonable prices of basic essential commodities to the consumers in the country, including Delhi.

(b) Constant efforts are made to strengthen and streamline it, by improving the delivery system, vigorous monitoring and inspections to avoid diversions, improving viability of fair price shops, covering the uncovered areas in which the